

00862.022324. (862.C2324)



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Dennis William Ruhl
KENICHI SAKUMA, et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 3629
Application No.: 09/921,569)	
	:	
Filed: August 6, 2001)	
	:	
For: EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT)	
SYSTEM, EQUIPMENT	:	
MANAGEMENT APPARATUS,)	
CONTROL METHOD	:	
THEREFOR, AND)	
COMPUTER-READABLE	:	
MEMORY)	October 17, 2006

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination of the above-identified application for which a Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the final Office Action dated July 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

October 17, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Damond E. Vadnais, Reg. No. 52,310
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


Signature

October 17, 2006
Date of Signature